

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-02 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: A/BF/OAG:DLQUAID, JR.:TP

APPROVED BY: A/BF/OAG:DLQUAID, JR.

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P 291725Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN PRIORITY

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FOR GAO O'BRIEN

FOL REPEAT OF JAKARTA 5521 TO SECSTATE

INFO BANGKOK CINCPAC APR 28

QTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 5521

BANGKOK PASS GAO STAFFORD; CINCPAC PASS GAO SHELEY

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD ENGR AGAO IO

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL OIL MARKETING SYSTEM

REF: (A) STATE 097903, (B) BANGKOK 11424

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES VISIT OF GAO TEAM BUT WISHES TO ELABORATE ON RECOGNITION BY GAO THAT TIMING PROPOSED WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR TEAM TO ACCOMPLISH ITS PRIMARY OBJECTIVES. GOI PREPARATIONS FOR BALI OPEC MEETING ARE ALREADY IN FULL SWING AND SENIOR OFFICIALS IN BOTH PERTAMINA AND OIL AND GAS DIRECTORATE WILL PROBABLY BE UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE OUR REQUESTS FOR APPOINTMENTS IN WEEK PRECEEDING BALI MEETING. AS HOST, GOI PLANNING SEND LARGE DELEGATION TO BALI FOR PROGRAM AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. EMBASSY PETROLEUM OFFICER LIKewise PLANNING ATTEND OPEC MEETINGS

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IN BALI AND WILL BE ABSENT JAKARTA SEVERAL DAYS.

2. ADDITIONAL COMPLICATION IS CURRENT PERTAMINA SHAKE-UP WHICH INCLUDES COMPLETELY REORGANIZED FOREIGN MARKETING DEPARTMENT. DUST HAS NOT SETTLED YET AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO SORT OUT WHO IS DOING WHAT IN THIS AREA.

3. CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES ALSO LIKELY TO BE DIFFICULT THIS PERIOD. GOI HAS, THIS WEEK, RESUMED DISCUSSIONS WITH SEVERAL PRODUCTION-SHARING COMPANIES ABOUT ADDITIONAL PER BARREL TAKE. COMPANIES ARE ALSO ANXIOUSLY AWAITING IRS RULING WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED ABOUT TIME OF PROPOSED GAO VISIT.

4. HENCE, FOR REASONS NOTED ABOVE, WE STRONGLY SUGGEST GAO CONSIDER RESCHEDULING VISIT TO MID OR LATE JUNE WHEN OPEC MEETING WILL BE FINISHED. OFFICIALS WILL BE MORE AVAILABLE, AND OVERALL ATMOSPHERE IN OIL SECTOR WILL BE LESS TENSE. IF RESCHEDULING NOT POSSIBLE, EMBASSY WILL, OF COURSE, DO ITS BEST TO ACCOMMODATE GAO TEAM.

5. PLEASE ADVISE. NEWSOM UNQTE SISCO

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